Lancaster Intelligencer.

SATURDAY EVENING, DEC. 3, 1881.

Changes in the Statutes. The president of the American Bar as sociation, which meets every year in Saratoga, is charged with the duty of reviewing in his annual address ' the noteworthy changes in the statute law" since the last meeting. This duty, if well performed, is no slight one in magnitude, and one of s very great deal of importance to the legal profession, since there is no publication or digest which takes this scope. What interest can be given to such a compilation and how admirably the duty of making it may be performed, is well illustrated by the last address delivered before the association by Edward J. Phelps, of Vermont, and published in the proceedings of the fourth annual meeting. Inasmuch as only five states-Maryland, Virginia, Louisiana, Iowa and Kentucky-escaped a legislative session last year, and only California was relieved from law-making by an irrefragible dead-lock in its Assembly, no single address could digest and classify the incongruous mass of legislation imposed by the lawmakers of a single winter upon their suffering constituencies. In his address, however, President Phelps succeeded in so fully compassing the main publication has given it and the whole se-

features of the new statutes that it is worthy a place in the legal literature of the country. We are surprised that no legal ries of these yearly reviews of the statutes permanent lodgement. Their plan suggests the value, if not the necessity, of the yearly publication of some digest which would give a bird's eye view at least of the changes in the statute laws of the nation and of the thirty-eight states. Nothing can be more important to lawyers and publicists than to scan and care_ fully weigh the general tendencies of legislation in these days. Much of it is superogatory, some hurtful, some senseless, and a small part of it rendered necessary by the development of the country, the extension of its institutions and the increasing variety of our interests. Little that swells the statutory year books is due to the enlarged intelligence of legislators, and much is monumental of their folly and short-sightedness. Chiefly by way of warning is the history of statute making to be studied with profit. In reviewing the legislation of last year

special interest, territorial land grants for upon general principles, over that which refuture universities and the establishment of international comity in the registry of trade marks. In the states there have been numerous laws made for the better protection of human life, restricting the sale and practice of medicine, providing against damages from fire, water and railroad accidents, but no marked advance has been made in the laws against murder adequate to compensate for the facilities ous effects of too much legislation. That contend?" offered for the escape of the accused, by country is best governed which is govmaking capital offenders witnesses for themselves in Michigan, Mississippi, West | legislation. He who lives to see the sphere Virginia and New Jersey-wives in the latter state now being allowed to testify for their husbands. The protection of public health, the restriction of the spread at with the jack-knives of annual and biof epidemies, the prevention of food and drink adulteration; laws in behalf of public morals, against gambling, pool selling, lotteries, obscene literature, and for more stringent regulation of the sale of liquors, by means more or less moderate-'Blount's Springs " being always excepted from the operation of Alabama's new law-have been subjects engaging attention. Gradually the powers of women to participate in public affairs and their rights in their husband's estates and to the control of their own have been enlarged, Mr. Phelps deprecating the general tendency of ill-constructed and hostile statutes to establish the theory that the husband is the antagonist against whom the wife chiefly needs protection. It is probably the degeneracy of man and a general dissolute ness of society, not the statutes, which have brought about the condition for which they are intended to be remedial. We agree with the president of the Bar association that statutes cannot restore the "old fashioned sacredness" and "indissoluble obligation" of marriage, but new legislation may be rendered necessary by the altered relations resulting from the new conditions of society. Unhappily this is the case. It is satisfactory to see that the cause of education engages a considerable share of the attention of legislators. In dealing with the question many of them play with edged tools, and a great many crude statutes on this subject are the result. Mr. Phelps indulges in a vein of pleasantry and flashes of humor throughout his reciprocate by reading a little notice in speech, never transgressing the decorum of his position nor forgetting the gravity of his task, but one of the late statutes of Minnesota, regulating the course of instruction in its public schools, is well calculated to distarb his dignity. According to a law in that state it is required "that in all schools instruction in the elements of social and moral science shall be given, in- only ten cents a week. It is certain that cluding industry, order, economy, punctuality, patience, self-denial, health, purity, temperance, cleanliness, honesty, truth, politeness, peace, fidelity, philanthropy, self-respect, hope, perseverance, cheerfulness, courage, self-reliance, gratitude, pity, mercy, kindness, conscience, reflection and the will. Oral lessons upon one of these topics to be given every day, the pupils required to furnish illustrations of the same upon the following morning." We commend the comprehensiveness of this scheme to the most persevering normal schools of Pennsylvania and to the most ambitious universities of the

East. The limitation of the powers of municipal corporations is assuming very great importance, and as usual Ohio is to the front with the greatest nevelty in the way of legislative devices empowering counties, cities, towns and villages to engage in various enterprises. The scheme of the Buckeye statesmen is to enact that any town having a population of a certain exact number be vested with certain authority, no other than that intended to be holder. The New York organization is reached having that exact population, said to be in negotiation with a Philadelsion of the de Philadelphia and Pittsburgh are legislated cold-packed pipe-joint, by which it is claimed that \$1,500,000 would be saved in for in general terms in this state as re- the cost of the lead used in making the spectively cities of the "first and second joints, and bridging dispensed with." class" when in fact there are no others in their several classes. With the decis ion of the supreme court of Michigan denying the power of municipalities to lend

themselves and their money to aid in the construction of railroads, has begun the reaction against the former tendency of courts and Legislatures to let cities run toward indulgence in a system of subsidies which too often tends to their financial embarassment. In our own state the opinion validating the Williamsport bonds was the expression of a slender majority of the court, the odd member being won to support of it under circumstances which created a feud in that high judicatory,

which has been a scandal ever since. New tax laws, prohibition of railroad abuses and discrimination, the requirement from corporations of greater public conveniences, and the imposition of new liabilities denote the growing jealousy of the people against the aggressiveness of corporate power, though the relations of one to the other becomes more and more a serious problem as railroads become more indispensable and their accumulation of capital and centralization of power more dangerous. Agriculture, arboriculture, drainage of large areas, forestry, homestead exemptions, and irrigation are some practical subjects of legislation which show that the interests of that class of people who compose half our adult population are not totally lost sight of in the changes of the statutes. The vagaries, oddities and whimsicalities of legislation make a long list and must be studied to see to what limit of asininity men appointed to make laws will stretch their appointment. Of one thing Mr. Phelps feels certain, that the dignity of the legal profession can only be maintained by keeping up the standard of education for it. For which he could have found no better testimony. than in the fact-that does not seem to have occurred to him-that a large part of our legislatures are made up of lawyers rest, he was attired in a robe of soft skins, who too often fail as lawmakers and whose defective education, as well as the neglect of the profession to watch and check the course of making new laws, is largely responsible for much that cumbers and some that disgraces our voluminous statute In summing up his review, the author

of the address we have been considering freely expresses his opinion against the tendency to apply codification to gen eral jurisprudence. The history of the common law is that of our institutions, our language, our literature and our religion. The experience of England and America has demonstrated the super-Mr. Phelps finds only two federal acts of jority of a government and justice founded poses upon any collection of arbitrary written rules. In the same view the assumption of omnipotence by legislaturesall the while confessing their ignorance and exposing their corruption—their hasty. inconsiderate and ill-advised changes of the statutes, the cutting and carving, the patching and plastering, from year to erned least, especially by frequent new of legislation further and further enlarged. until finally the whole law of the land will be turned into statutes, to be hacked ennial legislators, "will see also the decay of the administration of justice and tinction of those principles of civil liberty which the history of the world shows to be inseparable from the common law."

The Saddle on the Uther Hease. Adapted.

He was the manager of a church fair, and one morning he walked into the news paper office and said Want an item ?"

"Yes, of course," replied the editor. Whereupon the visitor laid the following

note upon the table : "The ladies of the -- street church will give a festival next Friday evening. Literary and musical entertainments will be provided and a supper will be served to all who desire. The ladies in charge of the affair have had much experience in such matters, and are sure to provide a

good time. The admission will be only 15 cents, and it is certain that no one can spend that amount to a better advantage. Be sure and go and take your friends. When the editor had read it, he said :

"Oh, I see; an advertisement." "No, not an advertisement, We prefer to have it go in the local column, plied the manager. And seeing that the

editor looked skeptical, he then continued: "It will interest a good many of your readers, and help a good cause; besides. we have spent so much money getting up our entertainment that we can't afford to advertise it without increasing the price of the tickets. In such a matter as this we ought to be willing to help each other.

"Well," said the editor," if it goes into the local column, I suppose you would church next Sunday.

The visiting brother asked what notice and the editor wrote and handed him the following: "The Daily INTELLIGENCER for the

coming year will be the best and cheapest family paper in Pennsylvania. Its proprietors have had much experience and all the helps which a large outlay of money can procure. This paper is furnished at ready for his aid?"

GENCER and subscribe for your friends." The manager hemmed and hesitated. and then said solemnly that he doubted whether it would be judicious to read such a notice, but suggested that if it was printed, copies of it might be distributed

at the door on the evening of the entertainment. "Yes, " said the editor. " but it would attract more attention in the middle of the sermon. It will interest a large number of your congregation and help a good cause, and besides so much money is spent upon the INTELLIGENCER that I don't see how we can afford to print handbills to advertise it without increasing the sulscription price. In such a matter as this we ought to be willing to help each other."

Then the gentleman saw the situation.

A Large Undertaking. It is positively announced that a com pany has been organized in New York for supplying the Eastern cities with gas manufactured at the coal mines in Western Pennsylvania, and conducted to the places of consumption through a system of pipes Mr. John Hoey, of the Adams express company, is said to be a heavy stockphia company for the use of a system

A Roman Holiday.

A Tale of Ancient Rome. H. B. S. For the INTELLIGENCER.

CHAPTER I. Rome was yet glorious; but it was no the glory of her earlier days. Prosperity had enervated, and luxury debased, her populace, whose venal practices in governmental and social affairs broadly displayed what they affected to despise, a disposition of cowardice, ill-suited to the name and attributes of a Roman citizen. And when the profligate and exquisitely-conceited Carinus, with his brother, assumed control of the Roman empire, he found in the Ro-

their vanity, and the gratification of their desire for rich amusement. History has condescended to record but little of the administration of Carinus, except his exhibitions and games of the amphitheatre and the circus, which, it is con essed, exceeded in pomp and magnificence the spectacles of former days. But tradition of times adds an event, which, though founded on truth, and embellished by fiction, can amuse, though it may fail to in-

struct, the mind of a philosopher or a

savant. It was a day of joy and hilarity in Rome A hundred gladiators were to contend in the arena of the Colosseum, that mighty subject of ancient splendor and modern wonder, and the fair and heroic land of Greece was represented in the doomed band. In one of the recesses of the amphi theatre a score of them were assembled There were no tokens of fear about them fate had initiated, and victory confirmed their vocation, and they were, with the exception of one, gladiators by profession. Negligently scattered about the apartment, their scanty apparel showed their brawny limbs and toughened sinews in unimpeded

power. In a corner, apart from his companions stood a youth, whose symmetrical form, noble carriage, closely clustered hair and faultless profile, at once stamped him as a falling from the neck to the feet, and fastened and made to fit closely by a broad leather belt around the waist. He had stood so long, alone and silent, that the men became impatient and curious, and leader of the Greek gladiators, advanced which brings his companion to his side. and addressed him with:

"In truth, youngster, you must love silence. Surely Harpocrates claims you at this moment. Why so depressed?" We should not let but one of the gods

rule here, " returned the youth, evasively, in a musically modulated voice. "By J 'Yes, let Comus reign alone," shouted the gladiator, bolsterously. "I would not let these foppish and soft-brained Romans will le erces of fate. No, per Hercule; we are Angerona attend us." Greeks, and worth a thousand Romans!'

easily upon the floor. "Bah! These ten years I have been in of which language I use" said Aggeus, iron-"But cheer up, Sosthenes, ically. continued, addressing the young Greek.

The gods are propitious to the fortunate. "Yes, to the fortunate, " remarked Sosyear, all have combined to teach the ruin- thenes, slowly. "But with whom do you

"Oh," replied Aggens, carelessly. "I tries my mettle to-day. And you?"

"With no one. I bribed a keeper, and he allowed me to enter here with you and your comrades," replied Sosthenes. "By Jupiter, ; you are bold, "exclaimed Aggeus. "If they find you here, you will fare badly. But hark that din. The emperor has arrived, and the nice gentlemen and lovely ladies grow impatient for the the legal profession, and the gradual ex- gladiator's blood. I tell thee, comrades, he continued, turning to his companions, this shall be a long and warm sport, and we can trust only to our skill and the fav-

> Sosthenes? Every gladuator leaped to his feet, and peered into the corner where the young

or of the gods for success. But where's

Greek had stood; he was gone.
"Well, he's a queer one," at length
exclaimed their leader. "Even while my back was to him but an instant, he disappeared. I wonder how he got out of here. Further words were interrapted by the heavy door being swung open, and the gladiators saw a file of soldiers stationed at either side of the entrance. A keeper entered with attendants. who placed in the hands of the Greeks long lances and nets. Not all, however, were thus given arms. Aggeus was to remain until the hour came when he should meet, in single and deadly combat, a captive Goth, doomed to the arena.

" Vale, my comrades, " exclaimed their eader, as they filed from the apartment; "and may the gods protect you." And their last farewell that Aggeus heard came bravely back, "vale!"

Left alone with the great door closed upon him, Aggeus threw himself upon the floor, and pondered over the strange disappearance of the young Greek. He was surprised by seeing a large stone suddenly fall from the wall, near the floor, leaving open an aperture amply large for the admittance of the body of a man, and in the faint light he beheld, a moment later, Sosthenes emerge from the hole, saying : "Don't be alarmed, Aggens; I'm a

friend. Well, I'm not alarmed, but I'm very much surprised," returned the gladiator. You seem to know much about this structure; but, by Jupiter, you are runing a great risk. What do you mean by these proceedings?"

"Listen," replied Sosthenes; "Aggeus you are a Greek, and, like myself, descended from the brave Spartans. If you found a native of that fair land in danger here in Rome, would not your strong arm be ever

"Now, by the gods, I sorn to meet no one can spend that amout to a better this valiant Goth in you arena; rather let advantage. Be sure to take the INTELLI. me face a hundred Romans in my country's cause," exclaimed the generous

> "Then listen," said Sosthenes, "Two weeks ago, a miserable Roman magistrate, in Athens, saw there the glorious daughter | ace, forsooth, know of this place, and will of the noble Patroclus, and tore her from his arms, for a present to the emperor. learned of the event soon after its transaction, followed the abductor's train alone, in the guise of a Turkish servant, and was engaged by one of the officers. We arrived here this morning, Cressida being well treated during the journey, and is now in one of the apartments of the palace, where, after these games are over,

the emperor will see her The dark eyes of the gladiator seemed to glow with rage, as he listened to his companion's words, and he raised his huge | we would not have known where to hide, fist, and struck it against the wall in his said Sosthenes. "But here they are,

excitement, exclaiming: "By all the gods of Greece, these sensual Romans have destroyed all honor in the Greeks, and left them weak as slaves There was a time when such a wrong would have roused all Greece to arms But, though we have no arms, you and will rescue this Grecian maid. Yet, how are we to gain the palace unperceived?" "Follow me," answered the youth : "this aperture gives us access to one of the sub. fitted over an opening to a passage, in

the purpose of flooding the arena. Come, we have no time to lose." So saying, they hurriedly entered the tunnel, Sosthenes having carefully re-When a Chicago preacher wants a new church all his own, and a big congregation, he has himself convicted of heresy.

I convert that an iron ring had been fastened in the side next the passage, it being one of the many contrivances in the immense structure, designed for pleas tion, he has himself convicted of heresy.

I convert that an iron ring had been fastened in the side next the passage, it being one of the many contrivances in the immense structure, designed for pleas the middle of the stone, on the under the tribune explained, to an apartment or cellar, in which was stored the immense structure, designed for pleas the immense of the tribune explained to a tunnel, large enough to admit the body of a man, running directly through, the tribune explained, to an apartment or cellar, in which was stored wine.

Silently the three men wait in the cham the orders her to be mit the body of a man, running directly through the tribune explained.

Silently the three men wait in the bid mit the body of a man, running directly the through the mit the body of a man, running directly through the mit the body of a man, running directly the three men wait in the cham the orders have been fastened in the body of a man, running directly the through the mit the body of a man, running t

ing their way, they hurried through the cavern, and in an hour's time came to its opening along the bank of the Tyber. "But how are we to reach the palace in

daylight?" inquired Aggeus. "By the aid of these things," replied his companion, as he drew from their place of concealment several pieces of Turkish wearing apparel, much torn and soiled. They were soon clothed in the garments, and each armed with a keen dagger, supplied by the careful foresight of Sosthe

nes, they silently issued from the tunnel, and gained the street. They traversed, without danger, the different ways, and had reached the front of the palace, when the noise of a distant commotion arrested their steps, and ere long an excited crowd trial of strength; he feels the stone move mans a people ever ready for a display of rushed towards the palace, with the cry, and sink; but the soldiers have entered Aggeus has escaped !"

"The curs," muttered that personage to his companion. "We shall have to be watchful. The best thing is to mingle with the crowd.'

Sostnenes goined assent, and they joined the mob with equal clamors. The throng pressed to the palace, and soon the two Greeks found themselves, with many others, within the vestibule. At that instant the cry of "The guards!" was heard, and a moment later a legion of soldiers were amongst the excited people, forcing them from the palace, to the street. Aggeus was about to follow the crowd, when he felt his arm clutched, and turning he saw his companion point to a doorway, before which hung heavy folds of tinted velvet.

"We will remain in this place, and may escape detection by going in there,

whispered Sosthenes, hurriedly. They were quickly behind the velvet screen, and discovered themselves in a small apartment, from the end of which a narrow stairway ascended, that being the only means of egress from a place, in which their liability of capture de-termined their actions. It was but the work of a minute to mount the stairway. find themselves in a long passage, the ter-minus of which they discover leads into perfect type of the true Greek. Unlike the apartments designed for the occupancy of the emperial servants.

"It is not safe to go there," whispered Sosthenes, as they halt. "Nor safe to remain here," returned

the gladiator. Aggeus retraces the passage a few yards a powerfully-built man, the acknowledged | and suddenly utters a low exclamation, "See, " exclaimed the former; " we

have passed another entrance. Here is a way leading from this hall, " pointing to a low doorway, screened by folds of velvet. Sosthenes followed the motion, and ex-"By Jupiter, these Roman emperors

have passages everywhere in their pal-We will enter this; perchance it will lead us in the right direction. But behold me mope or cower before the de- we must be silent and cautious, and may Slowly he moved aside the screen, and

"Aggeus is continually cursing the Ro- they saw, to their great satisfaction and nans; yet he swears in Latin, "remarked | surprise, not an open apartment, light and a savage-looking gladiator, as he reclined with occupants, but a narrow way, dark, but for an open entrance, about the middle of it, into another arpartment. Sithe service of Rome have made me careless | lently they enter, traverse this way, until they draw near the entrance mentioned. when they halt.

> "Let us decide, before we go further, what course to pursue, " said Sosthenes. "We must pass that open doorway. In so doing, we may be observed by persons in the room into which it leads, or, what is still worse, it may be guarded. "But to where do you think this pas-

> sage we are in Aggeus. "Into a more prominent part of the pal-

> ace, perhaps, " answered the young Greek; and in that case, we are sure to be dis covered and captured."

It was not, however, feasible or safe to remain where they were, and the two Greeks were compelled to proceed, no matter what further events would be developed. With their hands upon the hilts of their daggers, they noiselessly moved forward, and were almost abreast of the dreaded doorway, when Aggeus, who had taken the lead, suddenly stopped and pointed to the entrance; and Sosthenes saw the shadow of two armed guards at either side of the door. Too near to dan ger, and perhaps to death, the Greeks read determination and purpose in each other's eyes, and then glided toward the sentinels. They could only surmise that there were but two to encounter, but the old Grecian blood flowed in their veins, their cause was honor, and death alone could end the attempt. They crept on a which I know, to the upper part of the minute longer, then, with the bound of a palace, and, with the aid of the divine panther, each sprang upon his man, even gods, we shall succeed in our designs." as the challenge issued from the guards' lips. Sosthenes felt the sharp point of a is it?" asked Sosthenes. "Is it only to lance pierce his arm, but he tore the aid us in rescuing this Greek girl?" weapon from the Roman's grasp, and the Greek's dagger sank to his heart. Fortune still more favored the gladiator, whose onset was so fierce and successful, that the sentinel had not time to use his lance. and fell, in an instant, to the floor. But ere the Greeks could exchange words, they heard quick steps behind them, and turning, found themselves in deadly encounter with two other guards. All unprepared for this new attack, they might have succumbed to the agility of their new antagonists, when shouts were heard in the distance, and a Roman tribune dashed into the apartment, and drawing a given to man, were mine. But a miserable dagger, plunged it into the breast of Sosthenes' foe. The gladiator's strength and I have sworn revenge. Yes, this day and training again won him his victory. "Follow me, " exclaimed the tribune. "I know you; you are here to rescue the Grecian girl; I to revenge my wrongs. The palace is alarmed, and we dare not remain here. I know where we can be concealed until night then accomplish our

As the tribune spoke, he rushed towards the end of the passage, closely followed by the two Greeks. On through a stately room, into another passage, through that to a flight of stairs, leading downward, into a chilly, underground passage, and into dark apartment, the heavy doors of which

their guide closed, as the yells of the soldiers echoed to their cars. "Safe! thank the gods," exclaimed the tribune, as he rested against the wall of

he dungeon. "Safe," echoed Sosthenes. "We can not be safe here. The people of the pal-

soon be upon us. " "But the door will hold until we gain safer place," replied the tribune. Where is Aggeus?"

"I am here," answered the gladiator, and find this a most miserably dark den. By Jupiter, I had rather meet a hundred Romans in the light of the arena, than tussle with one in the gloom of a dun-

"Well, Aggeus, we must thank our

noble friend here for our lives. Even though we should have slain all the guards, he exclaimed, as the tread of many feet resounded upon the pavement without. 'The curs," muttered the gladiator. They are at the door. Tribune," continued, addressing the Roman hotly;

'tribune, have you brought us here to die like dogs? We will open the door, and meet them like men. "Stop," hissed the Roman. "In corner in this dungeon a stone is closely

teranean ways that lead to the Tyber, for which we shall be safe. Lend me your Groping to where the Roman was kneeling, he directed them to press upon the stone, on which his hands were placed.

descended first, the tribune followed. But Sosthenes, forgetting for a moment his position, lingered to watch the heavy door tremble from the blows of the sol diers without. Then, like a flash, his danger came to mind, and groping for the opening, he found, to his horror, the stone returned to its customary position. With strength rendered mighty by dispair, he pressed upon the slab, but it weuld not yield. He glanced at the door; it was falling. Already the lights without gleamed through a narrow opening, which had been effected by the assailants. He redoubled his strength. The ponderous door fell with a crash. A prayer to the gods; one more desperate

CHAPTER II. In the supreme hour of danger, a coward will meet death with despair; a brave man will welcome it with honor; and, while the former might sink from fear alone, the latter disdains to fall, ere the blows of his assailants have deprived him of strength.

the dungeon.

Sosthenes did not hope, nor did he desire, for aught but death at the hands of the Roman soldiers, since capture would be worse than death. Conscious of the fact that his two friends, Aggeus and the tribune, were safe, and would be in position to rescue the Grecian maiden, he would have spurned the thought, as unworthy of the valor and honor of a Greek, to ask mercy at the hands of those, who were, though it might not be their duty, was certainly their desire, to take his

But fortune had otherwise designed. Even as the first guard had crossed the threshold of the doorway, the stone, by which his friends had entered a passage below, moved, and the instant a score of the pursuers rushed into the dungeon, and Sosthenes had risen to his feet, standing directly upon the end of the stone which sufficient pressure would cause to sink, to bravely meet the onset of his assailants. it lowered with a quick motion, dropping the young Greek at the feet of his companions, and rising to its usual position

with timeless rapidity. "Thank the gods," exclaimed the tri-bune; "we had given you up for lost." But the generous heart of the gladiator, who never feared to face five combatants of equal strength and form in the arena, and mock the dullness of their skill melted at sight of his brave young countryman, and, clasping him in his arms, he embraced him with all the fondness of a brother, and the admiration of a Spar-

"I tell thee, my boy," he cried, "the gods will give us full success. But, by Jupiter, it took all the strength of a strong gladiator, and a sturdy tribune, to get that stone to move. Hear those curs above. Think you," he continued, addressing the tribune, "there is danger of them entering here?"

"None," answered the Roman, tell, young Greek; how came you to remain behind? When Aggeus and myself found ourselves here on this floor, I presumed, not being able to see you in the gloom, that you had entered with us." "I scarce know myself, how it came about, " replied Sosthenes. "I could dis-

tinctly see your forms disappear through the opening, but I turned to look at the door, and see it quiver, as the soldiers showered blows against it, and when, as I recalled my peril, I prepared to follow you, I found, to my dismay, the stone replaced. I abandoned all hope, when the soldiers threw down the door and rushed toward me, but at that instant I felt the stone

sink beneath me. "Why, that is propitious," exclaimed the tribune. "No one in the palace knows of the existence of that means of escape from the dungeon, and their keenest scrutiny will develop them nothing, for the stone fits so nicely and naturally. that its mechanism cannot be observed The soldiers will, therefore, attribute your strange disappearance to the sudden interposition of the gods. They will be

will watch faithfully, they will consider it useless to search further for us. "Forsooth, it was then a good thing, said Aggeus, " and your delay, Sosthenes, served us a good turn. But what, Roman,

misled by the notion, and, although they

is your plan?"
"This," returned the tribune. "We must remain here until evening, when the emperor will return from the games. We will go then from here, by secret ways, of "But your purpose in being here, what

"No," returned the Roman, quickiy. "I do a deed to day that shall make Rome

joy and dread." "You do not mean the emperor, " said Sosthenes, increduously. bune, "therefore can I tell you." He

paused, and seemed to labor under strong emotions; at length he resumed: "Along the banks of the Tyber, I lived in carcless peace. A villa, beautified by nature, and adorned by art, nestling among thick blooming trees, and a wife, as beau

tiful and good, as the gods have ever emperor despoiled the honor of my home. shall Carinus die. " The voice of the tribune was flerce and bitter, and although in the darkness the Greeks were unable to see his face, they

felt the anguish of his soul. A silence, which men in peril most prefer, fell upon the group, and slowly the

weary hours of the day dragged on. The Roman burned with impatience for the evening that should bring him the mo ment of his reveuge. To Sosthenes the hours were as slow. He pictured to his mind the impotent grief of the aged Patroclus, mourning for his stolen daughter, and powerless to save her from harm. But when he thought of her in her danger, his impatience knew no check, and he paced the dark and narrow passage, with a fiercer restlessness than a newly-captured lion in his cage. For he had followed the captive maiden, not merely because she was a Greek, and his honor could not leave her to her fate, but because she was to him the queen of Grecian women. He force. he had come from the sacred soil of Sparta, to the elegance of Athens, and in that home of wisdom and of art he had, met Cressida, and told his love. In his devout thankfulness and joy, rich sacrifices and precious libations were offered to the god of love, who seemed to rain the choicest blessings on the lovers' lives. But now had come misfortune, and it made him chafe like a newly-captured lion in his cage, and still slower the weary hours of the day

"We can never tell the hour in this den," at length grumbled Aggeus. thirst for light, even more than for the wine after a long and bloody conflict." "Yes, Aggeus is right, " exclaimed Sosthenes; "this is too oppressive; I can remain here no longer. Tribune, lead on;

it may even now be evening, for it seems

an age since first we entered here. The Roman rose from his reclining posture, a position he had retained for several hours, and silently proceeded, followed closely by his companions, through the all day, but now evening had come, the underground passage they were in, and vast amphitheatre was deserted, and the reached its end, where four or five rings emperor, with his fawing parasites, was in were found fastened in the stone wall, by the palace. He stopped not for food or which they could ascend the wall to a narrow drink ; he has heard of the prize that offset above. Effecting this, the tribune awaits him, and he orders her to be

cellar.

"Then why delay?" asked the impatient young Greek.

"Do you mark the peril?" returned the Roman. "Consider; we reach the stone at the end of the tunnel, we remove t, the opening is displayed, and then, should there be guards, or other persons, in the apartment, the only result is capture; the only fate, death. "But what are we going to do?" said the gladiator, impatiently. "I tell thee, tribune, if some sturdy Goth had in the

arena made my bones ache, as they ache me now, from being in this cramped den, I could have some respect for the fellow; but if I hide here much longer, I shall have no respect for myself.' "Have you counted the hazard in re moving the stone, and meeting, possibly, the guards?" asked the tribune.

"Yes," Sosthenes responded; "and to prove my assertion, I will go first.' "No; I will lead, "said the Roman. "I can remove the stone easier and quicker than yourself. Follow me, and be si-

Quietly they crept through the tunnel length, and in a few moments the tribune stopped, and said, in a low voice: "I shall now remove the stone."

Saying which, he slowly pushed it out, and it fell, with a dull thud, to the floor. right in the apartment, prepared for any attack. But fortune again favored them; soldiers and civilians burst into the pal for the cellar had no occupants. From a ace, and the cry of "Long live the emsmall window, at the top of the wall, a peror, Diocletian!" fell on every ear, and small amount of light was admitted, and that newly-elected magistrate, hearing of the conspirators were enabled to ascertain a commotion within the palace, hurried that it was evening, and that the shadows of night were falling.

"Thanks to your impatience, gladiator," said the Roman, "we left the pashad guarded the youth and maiden, and sage at the right time. If that light dehad slain a dozen soldiers, until at last, soon arrive from the circus, with his guards and attendants, and then shall be enacted a greater play than what he there beheld. But come, we dare not remain

The perfect knowledge of the intricate ways beneath, and the apartments and passages within, the palace, which the Roman possessed, made him able to avoid meet with the imperial guards and at tendants, and pursue only those best suited to mitigate the peril of their situation. Following the tribune, they passed from the cellar, through a narrow doorway, and found themselves within a hallway, faintly lighted by a window, at the extreme end Noiselessly they traversed its length, and were on the point of entering another passage, when each felt a sudden and firm hold upon his arm, and, turning quickly, they beheld themselves in the grasp of three powerful guards. But they were not to be captured so easily. Moved by one impulse, each, at the same moment, tore from the grasp of the soldiers, who, relying too much upon the idea of their The forthcoming volumes for 1882 will in every being taken unawares, were themselves surprised, and received the daggers of their captives in their hearts.

"Well done," whispered the tribune hurrically. "You follow me. We must discover and gain admittance into the department in which the Grecian girl is confined. Ere long the emperor will have arrived, and will go at once to that apartment. We must be there to receive him. Come." They glided into the passage at the

entrance of which they had been assailed by the guards, and discovering a flight of stone stairs, they ascended them and gained another hallway, more open and prominent by its adornments in carving and statues. "Use double caution here," whispered

the tribune, "you door will admit us to a secret passage, that will lead us to where they have secured the Grecian maiden. With the utmost carefulness they glided over the marble floor and gained, unob-

served, the secret way mentioned by the "But where," asked Sosthenes, as they hurried swiftly along, "where is Cressida a prisoner, and how are we to gain ad-

dmittance to the chamber? "If she is where I think she is, we will have no difficulty in making an entrance, providing we reach there safely. A secret passage, barely wide enough for a man to pass in, to the apartment, which is entered by a door, the existence of which, I believe, no one in the palace except myself

As the tribune ceased speaking a painful look came into the features of Sosthenes, and he laid his hand on the other's

"Noble Roman, the gods seem to have given the life of the emperor Carinus into your hands. But you will not see him alone. He is always strongly attended, and the least attempt on your part to do him harm will, even though you succeed in killing him, be recented by the guards, and your life will not be a minute longer than his whom you will have slain. For ourseives, Aggeus and I have sworn to recue the captured maiden, and restore her to her father's arms. One of us may fall: I cannot believe that both will, for

the gods must leave her one protector.' "Forsooth, well spoken," said Aggeus in a low voice. "It is not our plan to enter the prison of the maid when it is filled with attendants and guards, but to steal her thence before they have arrived. For home of the gods above, and chanted in my ears the dirge of old Thermopyle." "Greeks," returned the tribune, "it is too late now to rescue the maiden as you had planned. We shall have barely time to gain the apartment before the emperor comes. We will be secreted there; at a signal from me you will rush forward, seize the captive, and trust to the gods to escape in the surprise and confusion. You have spokan of death," he continued "know then, I have seen the last of earth. Think you I run a risk? I do not, for I see how all will happen. This dagger shall scarce be in the heart of the base Carinus, ere mine shall feel its

The young Greek shuddered at the words of the Roman, but Aggens gazed with admiration upon him.

They again went forward, reached the narrow passage, traversed it, and found themselves facing a small sliding panel in the wall, which would admit them to the apartment they supposed to be occupied by Cressida. Noiselessly the tribune pushed the panel aside, and peering in, he saw that she was indeed there, and that there were no persons in attendance. They entered, closed the panel, and concealed themselves behind a screen of velvet, which hung pendent from the ceiling.

Whatever intentions either of the Greeks might have had to flee with Cressida from the place, at that moment, were frustrated by the loud blast of bugles reaching their ears, and from below the dulled hum of shouts and songs floated through the

The games in the circus, not withstand ing the escape of Aggeus, were continued

said the Roman. "The guards are now | behind the screen to gaze at the lovely doubtless stationed in every part of the palace. At the end of this tunnel, a nicelyfitted stone can be removed from the wall, His exclamation startled his companions and the opening leads at once into the who at once conceive the situation. There is no time now to tarry. In an instant Sosthenes is out of the mom, followed by his companions, and bou heedlessly down a flight of broad marble stairs. Aggeus and the tribune are now at his side, and, as they reach the rich floor below, one glance gives them the sit

uation. In a gorgeous apartment, in the midst of a host of attendants and and guards, is Carinus, before whom, in all glorious beauty and defiance, stands the Greek girl. There are shouts in the palace, but there are louder ones without, of which those within know not, and there are even now a multitude, wonderfully excited, entering the palace. A rumor is abroad the city that Carinus has been slain, and the populace is proclaiming a new em-

Carinus advanced toward the Grecian maiden, but ere he could lay his hand upon her, Sosthenes was upon him, hurling him back into the power of the tribune, seized Cressida, and stood with drawn dagger, to protect her. The glad-iator quickly gained his side, and sank his weapon into the breast of one of the which was not more than a dozen feet in guards, who had pressed too near. At the same instant the tribune sprang toward the emperor, buried his dagger in Carinus' heart, with the cry, "Thus do I revenge!" and, turning with an exultant smile, sank the weapon into his own An instant later, the three men stood up- breast. The shouts of the throng without had increased, and, as the tribune fell, there, and entered the spartment, in time to save Sosthenes and Cressida, but too late to protect the noble gladiator, who ceives me not too much, the emperor will opposed on every side, a score of spears pierced the trusty, generous breast, and Aggeus fell, as he exclaimed :

"Sosthenes, forget not, though I lived as a gladiatior, I died as a Greek." The generous clemency of the illustrious Diocletian pardoned Sosthenes, and the next day they started for Athens, with the body of the brave gladiator, and safely arrived there, where, ever after, Sosthe those in which they were most liable to nes dwelt, with his noble wife, in high and honorable position.

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